

VICTORY

FLASHES

*from* **MUHLENBERG**

February 23, 1945

Number 55

Good Morning:

It's pouring this morning, but we feel pretty chipper nevertheless. The news is good, the mail is heavy, and the basketball season ended Wednesday night with the best record ever compiled by a Muhlenberg team. Of the 26 games played, we won 23 and lost 3, two of them in the last week.

Victories since we checked up for you the last time were over Columbia 47 to 44 in an extra period thriller in New York on Saturday, Feb. 10; over the United States Coast Guard team of Philadelphia 48 to 43; and Wednesday night over Franklin and Marshall at Lancaster, 54 to 41. On the other side of the ledger, we have a 40 to 33 defeat at the hands of the United States Naval Academy team--undefeated to date--and a screwy defeat at the hands of Albright in Reading 40 to 43.

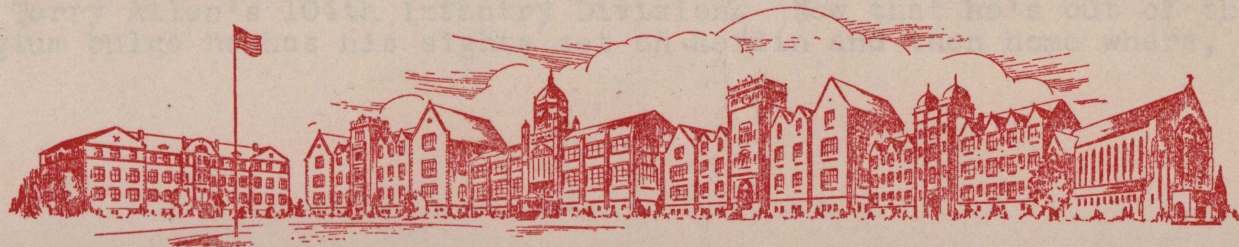
In spite of the fact that Doggie claims the team could defeat Annapolis on a neutral floor, we won't say anything about that game. We have a few choice comments, however, on the Albright game. We didn't see the game, but we understand that Albright, which consistently has refused to affiliate with the Eastern Intercollegiate Athletic Association which assigns neutral and unbiased officials, gave us the royal run around. You can use your own judgment when we tell you that in the first half of the game six fouls were called against Albright and seven against Muhlenberg, and in the second half two were called against Albright and ten against Muhlenberg. As a result of that game and previous Albright "hospitality", we suspect that MUHLENBERG will terminate athletic relations with them until such a time as they change their policy and ideas on what constitutes sportsmanship. And by the way, when we played Albright in Allentown with neutral officials appointed by Asa Bushnell, we trounced them 59 to 34, using all the reserves on the bench for a good part of each half. That score is a pretty fair comparison of the two teams.

Well, here's the record: We defeated Princeton, Lehigh, Columbia, the University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore Villanova, Bucknell, and Franklin and Marshall in two games each. We had single victories over Juniata, Drew, Penn State, St. Francis, the United States Marines of Philadelphia, Albright, and the United States Coast Guard team of Philadelphia. We lost to Temple, to the Naval Academy team, and oh yes, to Albright. Incidentally, after losing to Muhlenberg in Philadelphia and in Allentown, the University of Pennsylvania team knocked off the hitherto undefeated West Point team in Philadelphia last Saturday night. Last year's great team won 20 out of 23 regular season games, then lost a post-season game with the Sampson Navy Training Station team and lost to DePaul in Madison Square Garden. This year we scored 1211 points against 876 by our opponents.

We haven't heard a word about a Garden bid this year because the bids aren't out as yet. Watch the newspaper to see if Muhlenberg gets the nod.

That's pretty much basketball for one letter, but we thought you'd like to know how the season finally stacked up.

We made a typographical error in our last letter to you. We told you that our Navy unit for the term beginning March 1 would be just





under 100 men. We haven't been reduced quite that far--the figure should have been slightly under 200 men. That's the way the thing will stand. Sunday we'll be graduating 10 men and awarding special certificates to 67 Bluejackets who have completed their work at Muhlenberg and who are moving on next week to new training activities.

Examinations (remember them) are winding up today and the second term of this academic year closes. You can imagine how Haps is running around, checking up on grades, reading the riot act, and keeping even busier than usual. With the term over and our student body again reduced, we're saying goodbye to some of the special instructors who have been assisting us during peak periods. Atty. Kenneth Koch, who has been teaching government, will again devote his full time to his law practice and Bob Townsend of the Physics Department will go to Lehigh to take some more graduate work. At the end of the last term, the Physics Department lost Mr. Ramsdale and the Social Studies Department Mr. Smeltzer, Allentown insurance man who has been teaching courses in that subject. All were special instructors engaged for the duration.

We'll stick a new one into this letter and try to get something started--Haps accuses us of doing that regularly. Oftimes when we hear important subjects debated by the curbstome and hot-stove leagues and when we hear the gems of wisdom (are we being sarcastic!) that emanate from the bigger debating leagues, we wonder how you fellows feel about the issues that are being bandied about. We wonder, for example, how you feel about the proposed Universal Military Service Act under which men who reach 18 would spend a year in the service of their country in years of peace so that this nation would have adequate trained reserves in the event of another emergency such as the one you were called upon to lick. There's one group--including the presidents of a number of colleges--urging immediate adoption of that law to enable the United States to speak with greater authority at the peace table in favor of an international organization to enforce peace. There's another group that wants no part of it and a third, including some more college presidents, who want action delayed until you fellows come home and can make your voices heard. We'd like to know how some of you feel about it now. Will you take a few words to tell us about it in your next letter?

Two more Muhlenberg men are in hospitals in England. SERGEANT ERNIE FELLOWS '42 stopped some shrapnel in Germany early in December and, after various routine stops enroute, arrived at a hospital in England. You can imagine his surprise when CORPORAL AL ZUZZIO '44 walked in to help stitch up his wounds. The hospital is located in that part of England that supposedly was home territory to Sherlock Holmes. SERGEANT W. NORMAN BALL '35 is in another hospital suffering from a broken leg. He was injured in Holland on November 3 when he slipped in the mud while ducking some famous German 88 shells.

LIEUTENANT KENNETH DINGER '35 dropped in again by way of the mail route to assure us that Paris is a wonderful city and to describe the attitude of a Dutch (Holland) family he was visiting when a German plane began strafing the vicinity. He wonders--and so do we--what the real reaction of the Germans is to the pounding they are taking in those mass air attacks some of our Muhlenberg men are helping to dish out. CORPORAL WILLIAM RIZOS '46 is another of the boys getting to know the Dutch in Holland.

The American landing in Lingayen Gulf to start General MacArthur on his way back to Manila rounded out a year of Pacific duty for LIEUTENANT (j.g.) WILNER CRESSMAN '42. He has followed the war across thousands of miles of the Pacific from the Marshalls through the Mariannas and to the Philippines. In his log is the record of five invasions over assault beaches in a year--and before that there was the one in Sicily. Now those assaults remind him of a symphony--and he never took Doctor Marks' music appreciation course. T/SGT. WARREN MACK '42 also crashed through with a note from the Philippines saying that he still hasn't met any of the other Muhlenberg men who are over there.

SERGEANT CLEVE KENNEDY '42 suggests that we keep our eye on Terrible Terry Allen's 104th Infantry Division. Now that he's out of the Belgium bulge he has his sights set on Berlin and then home where, on



Jan. 26th, he became the father of a seven pound daughter, Judith Anne, the second in the Kennedy family. STAFF SERGEANT BOB GRIER '46 has been reading about Muhlenberg's basketball team in the Stars and Stripes in Belgium. And FRANK BASCOM '34 sent us a copy of the Paris edition of that paper with Muhlenberg in the headlines--but big. CAPTAIN HAMILTON CROWELL '28 says he's getting as scraggly as a mountain goat pushing through France with his mechanized unit. Oh yes--he has some choice comments on Paris and makes a special note about the girls the Arabs take with them from the mountains of North Africa when they go to fight on foreign soil. The Arabs, he says, are great warriors, and he knows because he has been on night patrols with them. LIEUTENANT CALVIN E. LOEW '43 sent special greetings from Luzon in the form of some Jap invasion currency.

Now we can tell you that Captain Henry P. Lowenstein, the first commanding officer of the V-12 unit on the campus, dropped in two weeks ago when he came back to the States after his ship was sunk by a Jap plane in the invasion of Minduro. The captain--he was a commander while at Muhlenberg--was on board an LST that was taking him to Minduro to set up an advance base unit when the ship was hit, burst into flames and went down. He's back in this country waiting for a new assignment. Captain Michael Scelsi, former Marine officer-in-charge on the campus, and Sergeants Howells and Walker of his former staff, all have found new duties in the Pacific.

We're jumping from theatre-to-theatre today just for variety. Here's a note from LIEUTENANT JOE WALKER '43 to say that he has arrived in England and soon will be piloting his Fortress into action. CORPORAL LAMAR A. FESIG '46 has had just about enough of the rain for which Holland is famous--even in peacetime. The boys are kept busy, he writes, bailing water from under the floors of their shelter. That's something that doesn't bother CHAPLAIN JOHN H.K. MILLER '32, who reports that he is living in an Italian villa that is a regular mansion--tile bath, spacious bedrooms, a huge living room and food that is prepared by Italian chefs, served on real china, at tables with table cloths. But he's anxious to push on to get the whole thing finished and come home once again.

If T/SGT. ARNOLD PETREY '44 can crash Time Magazine, he can crash this letter too. We heard from him the other day and he told us about the seven days he and his group spent in a German orchard, fighting Germans and living entirely on snow. With the other members of the unit, he has been cited for the Silver Star. Some of you may remember that Arnold was born in Germany and lived there until the mid-thirties when he came to this country. We're planning to publish his letter in the March issue of the Alumni Magazine. It was our speech at a meeting of the Easton Alumni Club the other night and, all by itself, it spoke volumes. PFC. RALPH W. BAGGER '45 reports he still is on the job in France. CHAPLAIN ERNEST W. MOYER '15 is in the same country, on duty in a military hospital.

We occasionally hear from Muhlenberg men in the Aleutians. Last letter from there was from CPL. PAUL J. RABUCK '45. He's been there for 20 months and in the back of his mind is the plan to complete his education at Muhlenberg as soon as the Army gives him the green light. CPL. GUS MINIFRI '42 has confirmed the report that he met CAPTAIN JIM BROWN '41 when the latter was enroute to a hospital in England. Gus is still holding forth on that hospital train and Jimmy will tell you that he is doing a dandy job. The packet of Christmas stationery reached MARTIN MORTENSON '37 in England and came in handy. He's with a unit of engineers.

Your former alumni secretary, LT. CHUCK GARRETTSON '37 of the Navy, is pretty well squared away down in the Mariannas where he is serving as a communications officer at an air base. He says that practically everyone flying east or west stops at the base and he suggests that any Muhlenberg men in the area should look him up. He's eager for familiar faces. Chuck was given a special citation a few months ago--rare for men in communications, so we are told. ENSIGN CHUCK MORAN'S '43 luck for meeting Muhlenberg men in the South Pacific is holding up. Last one to cross his path was CPL. DONALD BISTRITZ '44.



T/5 HERB GORIN '35 is still in England. He says the climate would be ideal if it weren't so damp. It's a good thing, he says, that many Englishmen are planning to visit their former colony after the war. He suspects that if they do they'll at least learn enough English to make themselves understood.

LIEUTENANT JEROME G. HUNT '34, pilot of a Thunderbolt, has been missing over Germany since December 19.

SGT. CARL WALTON '44 is fighting with that Yankee division you've been hearing about on the radio and reading about in the newspapers. Talking about radio, CAPTAIN RICHARD G. MCKITTRICK '37 was on the air last Sunday in a special Army Air Force broadcast from England. PFC. LAWRENCE HAYDEN '46, whose team is doing a good job in the Pacific, is pulling for the Cardinal and Gray team. Out in the Pacific LT. JOHN ELLIOTT '43 had Muhlenberg bull sessions (over cold Budweiser) with CPL. CHUCK BURRELL '43 and ENSIGN THOMAS O'HAGAN '45.

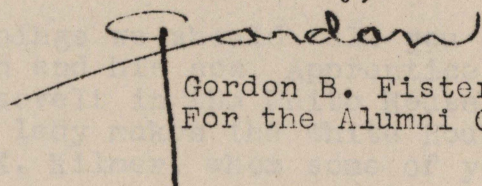
It took a V-Mail letter from the Pacific to bring the news that W. Roger Jamieson '42 (Marine lieutenant) has been hit with the kind of an arrow the little man with the sarong shoots. His engagement to Betty Marie Alexander of Paterson, N.J. has been announced and Rog says it will be so nice to come home. LT. WILLIAM FLUCK '38 has been a Navy routing officer in Panama for 25 months, but expects a change of duty and scenery soon. CPL ERNIE KRAUSE '43 is keeping plenty busy over in India and reports that the chow has improved considerably. S/SGT. FRANK FELTMAN '42 and CAPTAIN FRED BAUSCH '31 saw each other in France. Last year Frank heard the Madison Square Garden game on the air at Anzio. This year he hopes he'll pick it up (if there is one) in Berlin. AERM2/c WARREN HIMMELBERGER '43 wrote to us from the Admiralty Islands where he was keeping busy and enjoying life in the middle of a coconut plantation. He was almost a casualty when a falling coconut missed him by inches. Occasionally he hears from LINFORD STEVER '42 who is representing Muhlenberg in Persia.

Since WILSON ABBOTT '34 went overseas (a San Francisco APO address he has become a father. The little girl was born Aug. 21 and he's mighty anxious to see her. Roaming the Pacific on one of the mighty battlewagons of the fleet, LT.(j.g.) RICHARD BUSBY '40 has been able to spend several afternoons with LT.(j.g.) FRITZ RAKER of the same class. LT. JACK BADER '40 is now in his second year overseas. He describes his tour of duty as "interesting, exciting, and educational." S/SGT. HOWARD HARING '46 and PFC. CARL REIMER '45 get to see a good bit of each other in Belgium. Every now and then they are able to get together with BUD FLUCK '46. CHAPLAIN HAROLD ARTZ '32 has been transferred to duty in a Navy base hospital after serving with the Seabees for 16 months. He agrees with everything CHAPLAINS GEARHART and TRUCSES have told you about the Seabees.

That empties the overseas mail bag for this time and gives us just enough space to report a few promotions: FIRST LIEUTENANT RAYMOND MOATS '42; FLIGHT OFFICER GEORGE HOOD '46; SERGEANT CARL WALTON '44; HAI/c IRA G.T. WEISMAN '47; LIEUTENANT COLONEL FREDERICK ROBERTS '39; PRIVATE FIRST CLASS FRANK BASCOM '34; AERM2/c WARREN HIMMELBERGER '43; LIEUTENANT (jg) RALPH DINSE '44; STAFF SERGEANT HOWARD HARING '46; ENSIGN EDWARD STILES '44; SERGEANT NORMAN HOFFMAN '46; LIEUTENANT (jg) RICHARD BUSBY '40; SERGEANT HARLAN R. REMALEY '43; SECOND LIEUTENANT HERBERT DOWD '43; ENSIGN CARL W. SLEMMER '45; and CAPTAIN FRED J. TATE '32.

Thanks to Elsie, our faithful girl Friday; to Dot Riley, the mimeograph operator; Kitty Hill, who keeps the addresses in shape; and to the volunteers of the Woman's Auxiliary, who handle the mailing; this letter again is going out on time, in spite of the fact that commencement week is the busiest of the year. We like to give them a plug every now and then so that you fellows know who is doing the work. Thanks to all of you for your letters--and keep them rolling in. Here's to more good luck to you.

Sincerely,



Gordon B. Fister  
For the Alumni Office